THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) The Government is examining several modes of public-private partnerships to optimize the use of S&T resources for national development, one of which is participating through equity in lieu of transfer to technology.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

National Ruad Safety Policy

168. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government had formulated the National Road Safety Policy in 1992;

(b) if so, whether after implementation of the said policy the number of road accidents has come down;

(c) if so, Government's reaction thereto;

(d) whether it is also a fact that the losses being caused due to the road accidents in a year is equivalent to three per cent of the Gross Domestic Production of the country; and

(e) if not, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIAPPA): (a) The National Road Safety Policy drafted in 1992 was endorsed by the National Road Safety Council in its meeting held on 22.12.1994.

(b) and (c) Although the number of road accidents in absolute terms has increased, however, as a result of various road safety related measures being taken by the Government, the number of road accidents per 10,000 vehicles has been steadily decreasing as under:—

Year	Road accidents per 10,000 vehicles
1990	147.55
2000	80.89
2001	73.76
2002	69.23

(d) and (e) Planning Commission had assessed the social cost of road accidents in the country in the year 1999-2000 at Rs. 55,000 crores, which constituted about 3% of the Gross Domestic Products of the country for the year.

Shipping Operations at Nhava Sheva and JNPT

169. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether shipping operations at Nhava Sheva and JNPT in Mumbai have been badly affected by on-going strike between labour contractors and Container Warehousing Corporation of India;

(b) if so, to what extent the movement of cargo has been affected at Container Freight Stations in Mumbai ports;

(c) whether it is a fact that CWC owes large sums to labour contractors thereby blocking of payment of salary, wages and bonus to workers engaged by contractors; and

(d) if so, the reasons for CWC's delay in clearing up payments to its contractors?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) Shipping operations at Jawaharlal Nehru Port Container Terminal (JNPCT) and Nhava Sheva International Container Terminal (NSICT) were affected in the months of October and November, 2004 due to dispute between M/s Ornate Multimodal Transport Company, a handling and .transport contractor, and M/s Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC) and the strike resorted to by workers engaged by M/s Ornate Multimodal Transport Company, affiliated to the Nhava Sheva Port & General Workers' Union. There is no such organization as Container Warehousing Corporation of India.

(b) Around 400 boxes of JNPCT and around 500 boxes of NSLCT were diverted from JNP import Container Freight Station (CFS) to other CFSs in the months of October and November, 2004.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.